(c) to (e) Railways introduce new trains, extend the run of the existing trains, increase the frequency of trains, augment the load of the trains and run special trains etc. to provide more passenger accommodation. In 2007-08, it has been proposed in the budget to introduce 43 pair new trains, extension of 23 pair trains, increase in frequency of 14 pair trains and augment the popular trains with about 800 coaches. All new trains will have a minimum of 6 general class coaches subject to operation feasibility.

Handling over of surplus land to RLDA

2102. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has taken decision to handover surplus land of 25 locations around the country to the newly constituted Rail Land Development Authority for commercial exploitation; and

(b) if so, what is the total estimated income to be earned by Railways from this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) As yet, 13 sites have been entrusted to Rail Land Development Authority for commercial exploitation.

(b) Under the scheme, the developer will be selected through bidding process in transparent manner. It is not possible at present to ascertain the amount of realization from these sites.

Modernization of Railways

2103. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the modernization of Railways with the help of private players;

(b) if so, the areas identified by the Railways to create more revenue for the modernization plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to provide job security to workers in such private sector?